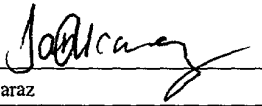


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Tamara Alcaraz

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Michael J. MAHAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/927,765

Filing Date: August 9, 2001

For: METHOD OF CREATING
ANTIBODIES AND COMPOSITIONS
USED FOR SAME

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1645

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Missing Parts
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this
Preliminary Amendment for the above-captioned application.

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 27-30.

Please amend claims 6-8, 12, 24, and 25 as follows:

6. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of *Escherichia*, *Vibrio*, *Yersinia*, and *Salmonella*.
7. (Amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein the bacteria are *Salmonella* bacteria selected from the group consisting of *S. typhimurium*, *S. enteritidis*, *S. typhi*, *S. abortus-ovi*, *S. abortus-equi*, *S. dublin*, *S. gallinarum*, and *S. pullorum*.
8. (Amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein the bacteria are *E. coli*.
12. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Pasteurella multocida*.
24. (Amended) The attenuated strain of claim 18, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of: *E. coli*, *Shigella spp.*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Yersinia spp.*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, and *Legionella pneumophila*.
25. (Amended) The attenuated strain of claim 18, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Pasteurella multocida*.

REMARKS

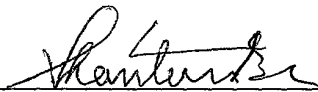
The above preliminary amendments to the claims are requested to better define the claimed invention. No new matter is introduced by these amendments, and these amendments are not made to avoid prior art. Claims 27-30 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to Applicant's rights to pursue such claims in the future in this or other continuing applications.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 220002060723.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 14, 2001

By: 
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

6. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the [pathogenic] bacteria are selected from the group consisting of *Escherichia*, *Vibrio*, *Yersinia*, and *Salmonella*.

7. (Amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein the [pathogenic] bacteria are [salmonella] *Salmonella* bacteria selected from the group consisting of *S. typhimurium*, *S. enteritidis*, *S. typhi*, *S. abortus-ovi*, *S. abortus-equi*, *S. dublin*, *S. gallinarum*, and *S. pullorum*.

8. (Amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein the [pathogenic] bacteria are *E. coli*.

12. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of [*Streptococcus pneumoniae*,] *Neisseria meningitidis* [, *Haemophilus somnus*, *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*,] and *Pasteurella multocida* [, and *Mannheimia haemolytica*].

24. (Amended) The attenuated strain of claim 18, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of: [*Salmonella enterica serovars*] *E. coli*, [*Non Typable Haemophilus influenza*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Helicobacter pylori*] *Shigella spp.*, *Vibrio cholerae*, *Yersinia spp.*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, [*Porphyromonas gingivalis*] and *Legionella pneumophila*.

25. (Amended) The attenuated strain of claim 18, wherein the bacteria are selected from the group consisting of [*Streptococcus pneumoniae*,] *Neisseria meningitidis* [, *Haemophilus*

somnus, *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*] and *Pasteurella multocida* [, and *Mannheimia haemolytica*].

Claims 27-30 have been cancelled.